

there are significant differences in CLEC versus ILEC performance on particular performance measurements. Second, statistical analysis should be used to determine whether an ILEC's performance, in the aggregate, provides CLECs with nondiscriminatory treatment. CLECs generally support this view.³³

The ILECs also generally agree with AT&T. For example, SBC (p. 24) correctly states that "a uniform evaluation process that relies on objective criteria" would allow "CLECs and state and federal regulatory bodies to make comparisons across regions. This would provide consistency of treatment among CLECs." SBC (*id.*) also acknowledges that such an approach would reduce its burden, because it "would only have to program one set of formulas for the performance measurements" which then would be used throughout its multi-state region. GTE (p. ii) echoes this view, stating that "[u]niformity will assist ILECs by allowing them to develop consistent measurement and reporting systems and software for all of their systems throughout the country, while CLECs will benefit by receiving comparable information on different ILECs' performance."

³³ E.g., Alliance, p. 7 ("statistical analysis is an essential tool in determining whether or not an ILEC is meeting its obligation"); MCI, p. 34; Sprint, p. 6; TRA, p. 18.

Other ILECs also favor the use of statistical analysis on the results of individual performance measurements.³⁴ In the New York collaborative proceeding, Bell Atlantic submitted a white paper that proposed a test statistic that is almost the same as the one AT&T proposes here.³⁵ Moreover, Ameritech (p. 95) supports the use of a one-tailed z statistic. For the reasons AT&T (pp. 51-54) discussed, this is much more appropriate than the two-tailed test suggested by SBC (p. 25) and US WEST (p. 35). Ameritech (id.) also suggests that the Commission adopt a 5% Type I error rate, which recognizes that the 1% Type I error rate suggested by U S WEST (p. 35) is much too extreme in these circumstances.³⁶

Ameritech (pp. 93-97) also generally agrees with AT&T's current proposal to determine overall compliance, both in terms of the use of a 95 percent confidence limit and the tracking of repeated failures of parity on individual measurements. Contrary to Ameritech's (p. 95) view, however, if an ILEC fails a statistical test at the established error rate, that is reliable evidence that the

³⁴ See Ameritech, p. 89; U S WEST, p. 25; Bell Atlantic, p. 11.

³⁵ Interim Guidelines, App. C.

³⁶ See also AT&T, p. 54.

ILEC's performance was not at parity. There should be no need for further analysis.

Finally, contrary to SBC's (pp. 28-30) assertions, AT&T's earlier proposal on overall compliance did not deal with enforcement or penalties. Rather, AT&T's proposal, as subsequently modified in its comments here, shows how to use statistical analysis to make a determination of whether or not the ILEC is meeting its statutory nondiscrimination obligation. Further, SBC and other ILECs only focus on the type of statistical error (i.e., Type I error) which could disadvantage them. They ignore completely the effects of Type II error, which results in harm to CLECs because of actual discrimination that goes undetected. AT&T has proposed a methodology that strikes a reasonable balance between these two types of statistical error.

Indeed, TCG (p. 21, and Attachment 1) emphasizes the importance of balancing risk in the detection of discrimination. Because the probability of Type II error increases as the probability of Type I error decreases, use of a 5% Type I error threshold for statistical testing may implicitly allow a Type II error of a much larger magnitude. Protecting the competitive marketplace from undetected ILEC discrimination should at least have equal importance to protecting ILECs against false alarms. Therefore, AT&T recommends that the Commission acknowledge that balancing

Type I and Type II risk is an important consideration when comparing performance results and set an approximate 5% error rate as the interim level for setting the critical value on individual measurement tests.³⁷ The Commission should also recognize, however, that if a more accurate mechanism for balancing Type I and Type II risk can be developed, its use should be considered for comparing the results of individual performance measurements. Such balancing would be particularly important if statistical methodologies are used in connection with enforcement proceedings.

VI. Reporting

AT&T (pp. 59-64) provided a comprehensive proposal regarding the type of reports that ILECs should be required to provide on their performance. Other CLECs essentially concur with AT&T's that reports should provide data on ILECs and their affiliates, CLECs individually and CLECs individually;³⁸ that reports should be monthly;³⁹ and that

³⁷ Under AT&T's proposal, the individual test Type I error is determined from the aggregate Type I error. As AT&T showed, setting the aggregate Type I error at 5% results in a slightly lower Type I error for the individual comparisons.

³⁸ KMC/RCN, p. 3; LCI, p. 9; Sprint, p. 7.

³⁹ Allegiance, p. 9; GST, pp. 9-10; LCI, p. 10.

such reports could be used to determine compliance with the statutory nondiscrimination standard.⁴⁰

Ameritech (p. 19) agrees with AT&T and the Commission (§ 39) that ILECs should be required to provide reports regarding their own retail performance, as well as their performance for CLECs, both individually and in the aggregate. Ameritech (pp. 19-20) claims, however, that ILECs should not have to provide data on their performance for affiliates that provide local services "in a specialized sense," and U S WEST (p. 27) states that ILECs should not have to report on performance for affiliates that provide local services. However, the quintessential test of whether an ILEC is providing nondiscriminatory service is whether it is favoring its own retail operations compared to those of its competitors. The proposed exclusions would enable the ILEC to avoid reporting on its performance for its own affiliates. Thus, the proposed exceptions should not be permitted.

SBC (p. 23) agrees with AT&T (p. 60) that reports should be provided monthly. In contrast, Ameritech (p. 85) and U S WEST (p. 33) suggest that reports should only be required on a quarterly basis. That is clearly insufficient. With quarterly reporting, discrimination

⁴⁰ GST, p. 10; MCI, p. 30.

could be ongoing for four or more months before it is even reported, much less addressed by carriers or regulators.⁴¹ Moreover, quarterly reporting could permit ILECs to aggregate data over a longer period in a way that, through averaging, could mask discrimination over significant periods.

In all events, the statistical methodology that AT&T and others (including Ameritech) proposes will prevent isolated instances from being "blown out of proportion."⁴² Moreover, Ameritech (p. 85) admits that "[t]he frequency of reporting does not really affect cost . . . because data must be gathered on an on-going basis whether or not it is reported monthly or quarterly."

⁴¹ The natural lag time between ILEC activity and reporting means that reports of ILEC January activity would not be available until late April or May.

⁴² See Ameritech, p. 85.

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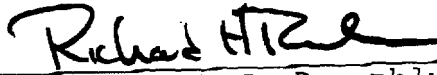
Conclusion

For the reasons above and in AT&T's comments, the Commission should adopt binding national rules for performance measurements and reporting consistent with AT&T's comments.

Respectfully submitted

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Attachment 1

Measurement Area	BellSouth	SBC	Ameritech	Bell Atlantic
Pre-ordering				
Average [Query] Response Time (§43)	Modifies	Supports	Supports	Supports
Provisioning				
Average Completion Interval (§53)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Supports
Percentage Due Dates Missed (§54)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Supports
Coordinated Customer Conversions				
Average Coordinated Customer Conversion Interval (§57)	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes
Order Status Measurements				
Average Reject Notice Interval (§60)		Supports	Supports	Supports
Average FOC Notice Interval (§61)		Supports	Supports	Supports
Average Jeopardy Interval (§62)	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes
Percentage Orders Given Jeopardy Notices (§63)	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes
Average Completion Notice Interval (§64)	Modifies	Supports	Supports	Supports
Held Order Interval				
Average Interval for Held Orders (§66)	Supports	Modifies	Modifies	Supports
Installation Troubles				
Percentage of Troubles in 30 Days for New Orders (§68)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Supports
Ordering Quality Measurements				
Percent of Order Flow Through (§72)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Supports
Orders Rejected (§75)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Supports
Average Submissions per Order (§76)	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes
911 Database Updates and Accuracy				
Percentage of Accurate Database Updates (§78)	Supports	Opposes	Opposes	Opposes
% Missed Due Dates (or Avg. Interval to Update) (§79)	Supports	Opposes	Supports	Opposes
Repair & Maintenance				
Average Time to Restore (§82)	Supports	Supports	Modifies	Supports
Frequency of Troubles in a 30-Day Period (§84)	Supports	Supports	Modifies	Supports
Frequency of repeat Troubles in 30-Day Period (§84)	Supports	Supports	Modifies	Supports
% of Customer Troubles Resolved Within Estimate (§85)	Supports	Modifies	Supports	Supports
Billing				
Average Time to Provide Usage Records (§89)	Modifies	Modifies	Modifies	Modifies
Average Time to Deliver Invoices (§90)	Modifies	Modifies	Modifies	Modifies
General Measurements				
Systems Availability		Supports	Supports	Supports
Center Responsiveness		Supports	Supports	Opposes
OS/DA Average Time to Answer (§93)	Opposes	Supports	Supports	Opposes
Interconnection Measurements				
Percent Blocking on Interconnection (Final) Trunks (§96)	Supports	Supports	Opposes	Supports
Percent Blocking on Common Trunks (§100)	Supports	Opposes	Opposes	Supports
Call Completion Rates	Opposes	Opposes	Supports	Opposes
Average Time to Respond to Collocation Requests (§103)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Opposes
Average Time to Provide a Collocation (§103)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Supports
% of Due Dates Missed – Collocation (§103)	Supports	Supports	Supports	Opposes

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Rena Martens, do hereby certify that on this 6th day of July, 1998, a copy of the foregoing "AT&T Reply" was served by U.S. first class mail, postage prepaid, to the parties shown on the attached Service List.


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